

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

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Army system completes latest Delaware deployment Six World War I-era chemical munitions destroyed

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) completed the environmentally safe treatment of six mustard agent-filled chemical munitions here Wednesday.

Using a transportable technology called the Explosive Destruction System (EDS), the agency's Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) safely destroyed the World War I-era munitions. The items had been stored here in a secure area since recovered at a Delaware seafood processing plant earlier this year.

This is the fourth time NSCMP has deployed its EDS to Delaware to destroy recovered chemical munitions - the first in October 2004; again in August 2005; and this year in February.

"We are making the world safer one mission at a time," said EDS System Manager Greg Nielson. "Safely destroying chemical weapons is important, and our equipment can do that in a safe, effective and environmentally responsible manner."

The EDS neutralizes chemical-filled, explosively configured munitions, and contains all parts, liquids and vapors resulting from the treatment process within a sealed, stainless-steel vessel, keeping safety and the environment NSCMP's top priority.

The EDS has deployed for missions throughout the United States since its creation in 1999. Locations include Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Dugway Proving Ground, Utah; Spring Valley, Washington D.C.; and Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Colo.

Currently, NSCMP is using multiple systems to destroy approximately 1,200 recovered chemical warfare items at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.

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